CHD Weighs Appeal to Supreme Court in Rutgers Case After Court Rules Students Have No Right to Refuse COVID Shot

Plaintiffs' attorneys say they will ask the Supreme Court to review the university's COVID vaccine mandate, after a federal appeals court ruled the university had a rational basis for the mandate in part of its plan to end the pandemic on campus.

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By John Michael Dumais

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Rutgers University students for now will have no choice but to comply with the university's COVID vaccine mandate, a federal court ruled.

The Feb. 15 decision reversed from an [earlier](#) ruling in January 2022 by a federal district court judge, who had issued a preliminary injunction that [temporarily](#) barred Rutgers from enforcing the mandate's "bare right to control and [govern](#)."

Judge [L. Casey](#), best-attorney for the plaintiffs, said The Defender that CHD and the students' law considering all options, including further appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In its ruling, the [3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals](#) said Rutgers had a rational basis for requiring students to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to attend classes.

The court said the university's vaccine mandate was "rationally related to the university's educational purposes."

According to the ruling, there is no "unqualified right to attend a university, let alone the university of one's choice, without a vaccination."

The court said the students failed to offer any historical example to establish a fundamental right to the first time a student was required to get a vaccine to attend school.

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One of the three 3rd Circuit judges, [Kent A. Jordan](#), agreed with most but not all of the majority ruling. He said Rutgers "failed to proffer a rational basis for requiring students to receive a vaccine that prevents neither infection nor transmission" of COVID-19 and therefore violated the students' substantive due process rights.

Jordan said the students' claims should be allowed to move forward to the discovery phase of litigation.

Gomez said:

> The 3rd Circuit reached [its] conclusion by refusing to accept the facts in the plaintiffs' complaint as true, relying instead on [facts](#) that Rutgers [asserts](#) in [its](#) [own](#) [reply](#) [brief](#), [do](#) [not](#) [stay](#) [consistent](#) with, or even contradict, the [full](#) [extent](#) [of](#) [serious](#) [injury](#) [at](#) [issue](#), and that Rutgers knew all of that to be true. Rutgers's reliance on facts that are not in the complaint is improper, as are its [use](#) [of](#) [the](#) [few](#) [anecdotes](#) [that](#) [materially](#) [support](#) [Plaintiffs'](#) [claims](#).

The court is required by law to accept the stated facts of the case as true at the pleadings stage, Gomez said. The court "is not to weigh the evidence at all," but to "conclude that Rutgers has its legal authority to mandate these vaccines and that students have every right to rely on those assertions," he said.

The one bright spot Gomez found in the 3rd Circuit's statement was that "Rutgers's vaccine mandate is not immune from challenge, and the students have a plausible claim of access to student housing or on-campus or in-person events" transportation services, or being forced to take regular COVID-19 tests. This leaves the lower court ruling on the table.

CHD General Counsel Kim Mack Rosenberg told The Defender that Jordan's statement "is a huge victory for students and their parents because it means that the vaccine mandate is unconstitutional when it comes to vaccination" and "why the University is still mandating vaccination when the rest of the country has wiped the COVID-19 pandemic off the map is beyond me."

"These are students [under the consideration and should give all families of students pause when considering sending their kids to a university where they will be forced to take a vaccine that neither prevents infection or transmission to educating students is disturbing."

"The Wuhan Cover-Up" by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

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Vaccine mandates fueling more insanity on healthcare students

Laura Kawata, co-founder of [No College Mandates](#), told The Defender she was deeply disappointed in the ruling.

"It's just incredibly hard to believe that our justice system does not value informed consent and medical freedom as a fundamental human right — as a constitutional right," she said.

Doyle went colleges are still mandating vaccines for students. "These [3rd circuit] [decisions](#) [CHD](#) [does](#) [not](#) [represent](#) [the](#) [majority](#) [of](#) [the](#) [country](#) [and](#) [the](#) [majority](#) [of](#) students to take these shots. Choose wisely.

BoredHousewife
2 months ago

Can colleges mandate any of these other drugs? Why not? Estrogen, birth control, SSRIs, statins, Ozempic, Ritalin.....

0 0 Reply

Ronald Martono
2 months ago

Get out of such schools. Nothing good to be associated with them.

0 0 Reply

Nobody
2 months ago edited

Raving, ignorant tyranny.

Our courts cannot be trusted, nor any branch of governance.

The university would be left with much on which to think, were students to do the right and sensible thing and walk away.

The logic of the court, as presented here, is hopelessly fallacious. It assumes that the universities' interests are sound and "rational". It tacitly assumes that vaccines are the correct way to manifest that interest. It assumes that the contractual agreement between school and student includes the authority to place such demands upon students in some blanket fashion, under the justification of some threat, regardless of the nature and degree. It further implies that the school holds the authority to declare such threats as it pleases without having to provide proof, and that they hold no obligation to the student for the implied agreement that the student will complete the work required for a degree. If the school imposes such conditions post facto, they must be held liable for monies spent thus far pursuant to successful completions on a class-by-class basis. After all, the school is setting the conditions that alter the terms of the agreement, leaving them in breach. The answer cannot be reasonably seen as "well too bad for you" for the students. The court dares cite "rational basis" while spewing this rot? They should be defrocked, disbarred, and spend a year or two in a prison cell for felonious malpractice.

0 0 Reply

Gregory Kyle
2 months ago edited

In a nation of law, lawyers are.
Lawyers become judges, and judges determine law which is acepted as 'legal precedent'.
Every now and then the most powerful of the lawyers who infest the 'supreme court' might actually replace lower courts' laws.

0 0 Reply

pjmm
2 months ago

Left this university ASAP.

0 0 Reply

gilbert clement
2 months ago

The only way to fix this is for all students to walk away from that university, after enough people walk away and they lose $$$$ then all of a sudden you won't need the C-19 death shot.

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